

What is being claimed is:

1. A pharmaceutical composition comprising:

(a) an effective amount of HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor; and

(b) an effective amount of a compound that inhibits cholesterol synthesis at a point

5 between the formation of acetate and mevalonate.

2. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 1 wherein said HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor is selected from the group consisting of mevastatin, lovastatin, pravastatin, fluvastatin, simvastatin, rosuvastatin, cerivastatin and atorvastatin and the pharmaceutically acceptable salts,
10 esters, lactones and isomeric forms thereof.

3. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 1 wherein said compound that inhibits cholesterol synthesis between the formation of acetate and mevalonate is a C₂₀-C₃₉ fatty alcohol and mixtures thereof.

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4. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 3 wherein said compound that inhibits cholesterol synthesis between the formation of acetate and mevalonate is a C₂₂-C₃₈ fatty alcohol and mixtures thereof.

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5. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 4 wherein said compound that inhibits cholesterol synthesis between the formation of acetate and mevalonate is policosanol.

6. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 1 said HMG-CoA inhibitor is atorvastatin and said compound that inhibits cholesterol synthesis between the formation of acetate and mevalonate is policosanol.

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7. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 1 said HMG-CoA inhibitor is lovastatin and said compound that inhibits cholesterol synthesis between the formation of acetate and mevalonate is policosanol.

10 8. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 1 said HMG-CoA inhibitor is pravastatin, and said compound that inhibits cholesterol synthesis between the formation of acetate and mevalonate is policosanol.

15 9. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 1 said HMG-CoA inhibitor is fluvastatin and said compound that inhibits cholesterol synthesis between the formation of acetate and mevalonate is policosanol.

20 10. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 1 said HMG-CoA inhibitor is simvastatin and said compound that inhibits cholesterol synthesis between the formation of acetate and mevalonate is policosanol.

11. A softgel capsule comprised of a sheath enclosing a liquid fill, said fill comprising:

(a) an effective amount of HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor; and

(b) an effective amount of a compound that inhibits cholesterol synthesis at a point between the formation of acetate and mevalonate; and

5 (3) a pharmaceutically acceptable liquid carrier.

12. The softgel capsule of claim 11, wherein said HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor is atorvastatin and said compound that inhibits cholesterol synthesis at a point between the formation of acetate and mevalonate is policosanol.

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13. A pharmaceutical formulation for the treatment or prevention of atherosclerosis, or for the reduction of plasma cholesterol levels, and suitable for filling softgel capsules comprising:

(a) an effective amount of an HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor; (b) an effective amount of a compound that inhibits cholesterol synthesis at a point between the formation of acetate and

15 mevalonate and (c) a carrier comprising polyethylene glycol and glycerine.

14. The pharmaceutical formulation of claim 13 wherein said HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor is atorvastatin and said compound that inhibits cholesterol synthesis at a point between the formation of acetate and mevalonate is policosanol.

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15. The pharmaceutical formulation of claim 13 wherein said HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor is mevastatin and said compound that inhibits cholesterol synthesis at a point between the formation of acetate and mevalonate is policosanol.

5 16. The pharmaceutical formulation of claim 13 wherein said HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor is cerivastatin and said compound that inhibits cholesterol synthesis at a point between the formation of acetate and mevalonate is policosanol.

10 17. The pharmaceutical formulation of claim 13 wherein said HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor is lovastatin and said compound that inhibits cholesterol synthesis at a point between the formation of acetate and mevalonate is policosanol.

15 18. The pharmaceutical formulation of claim 13 wherein said HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor is pravastatin and said compound that inhibits cholesterol synthesis at a point between the formation of acetate and mevalonate is policosanol.

19. The pharmaceutical formulation of claim 13 wherein said HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor is fluvastatin and said compound that inhibits cholesterol synthesis at a point between the formation of acetate and mevalonate is policosanol.

20. The pharmaceutical formulation of claim 13 wherein said HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor is fluvastatin and said compound that inhibits cholesterol synthesis at a point between the formation of acetate and mevalonate is policosanol.

5 21. A method for treating a disorder related to elevated serum cholesterol concentration in a mammalian subject, comprising administering to the subject a therapeutically effective amount of a combination of a cholesterol biosynthesis inhibitor selected from the group consisting of HMG CoA reductase inhibitors and a compound that inhibits cholesterol synthesis at a point between the formation of acetate and mevalonate.

10 22. The method of claim 21 wherein said HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor is selected from the group consisting of mevastatin, lovastatin, pravastatin, fluvastatin, simvastatin, rosuvastatin, cerivastatin and atorvastatin and said compound that inhibits cholesterol synthesis at a point between the formation of acetate and mevalonate is policosanol.

15 23. A method for treating hypercholesterolemia comprising administering to a patient:

(a) a first effective amount of policosanol; and

(b) a second effective amount of an HMG CoA reductase inhibitor .

20 24. A kit comprising in separate containers in a single package pharmaceutical compositions wherein said pharmaceutical compositions are combined to treat or prevent

athersclerosis or to reduce plasma cholesterol levels which comprises in one container an effective amount of a cholesterol biosynthesis inhibitor selected from the group consisting of HMG CoA reductase inhibitors in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, and in a second container, an effective amount of compound that inhibits cholesterol synthesis at a point between the formation of acetate and mevalonate.